

Notice of Allowance dated 12/28/2006

Appl. No. 10/544,296

Amdt. dated January 8, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 1217-051236

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- When the amount of the bituminous fine powder is less than 2 parts by weight, the effect of the addition of the bituminous fine powder is not observed, namely, the heat resistance of a resulting sealant is not improved or the life of the sealant ~~cannot be prolonged~~ cannot be prolonged. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- When the amount of the ~~organoperoxide~~ organoperoxide is less than 0.5 part by weight, a sufficient crosslinking density cannot be obtained, on the other hand, when it is over 6 parts by weight, a crosslinked product cannot be obtained due to foaming and further even if a cross-linked product is prepared, the rubber elasticity and elongation thereof tend to be lowered. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- For preparing the fluororubber sealant (sometimes referred to ~~a sealant~~ as a sealant simply), which is a crosslinked (vulcanized) molded article, suitably used for the purpose typified by fluororubber sealants for automobile fuel, it is possible to appropriately employ usual rubber molding methods such as compression molding, transfer molding, injection molding, extrusion molding, calendar molding ~~and like~~ and the like. For example, the above fluororubber sealant composition (blend) is usually heated at a temperature of from 150 to 200°C for about 3 to 60 min using an injection molding machine, compression molding machine, vulcanization press ~~and like~~ and the like (primary vulcanization). Furthermore, it may be heated at a temperature of about from 150 to 250°C for about 1 to 24 hr using a heating oven (secondary vulcanization). Further, the above vulcanization may be ~~carried under~~ carried out under pressure if necessary, or the

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above composition may be put in a predetermined mold and subjected to vulcanization. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The fluororubber sealant according to the present invention has a TR 10 value of not higher than -26°C, preferably not higher than -27°C, which value is a criterion of evaluating the low temperature resistance and determined by a TR test defined in JIS K 6261 (method of testing vulcanized rubbers at a low temperature). The fluororubber sealant has a swelling amount of usually not more than +30%, preferably not more than +25%, which amount is a criterion of evaluating the fuel oil resistance and is defined by immersing it in methanol at 25°C for 168 hr in accordance with JIS K 6258 (method of testing resistance to immersion with fuel oil concerning vulcanized rubbers). The fluororubber sealant in an O-ring having a P-24 size has a permanent compression set at 200°C for 500 hr of usually not more than 80%, preferably not more than 75%, which permanent compression set is a criterion of evaluating the heat resistance and determined in accordance with JIS K 6262 (method of testing permanent compression set of vulcanized ~~rubbers~~ rubbers). --

Please replace the line of text at page 20, line 18, with the following rewritten text:

-- Thermax N990 ~~manuectured~~ manufactured by Cancarb. --